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COUNTRY Germany (Berlin)

SUBJECT Russian Purchases of Silver

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ORIGIN

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1. A gold and silver refining establishment (called "Progon") set up by the Russians at Frenzelauer Allee 36, Berlin, instructed its purchasing agents about the first week in June to buy up any quantity of silver marked 800 (sic). Prices are quoted at RM 1000 - 1200 per kilogram. The result was a boom in the silver market among Berlin black-market dealers; the inmates of the UMRKA camps were also encouraged to buy up silver, and became very active.
2. Between 10 June and 23 June the establishment is said to have received some nine metric tons of old silver for melting down. In addition, two tons of old photographic paper are said to be on hand, from which the silver is to be reclaimed.

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